

IN THE CLAIMS:

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Please amend the claims as follows:

8. (Amended) The filtering device of claim 7, wherein:

the directional member has an inlet opening and the catheter portion includes a plurality of restraining wires attached near the inlet opening of the directional member and extending along the length of the catheter portion, the restraining wires being retractable from a location outside the body vessel to collapse the directional member.

Please add the following new claims:

13. (New) A filtering device for passing a fluid in a body vessel defined by a wall and for blocking the passage of particles through the body vessel, comprising:  
a filtering portion including a directional member made from a pliable material having properties of blocking the passage of the fluid and the emboli and being expandable by the fluid flow in the vessel to maintain its outer periphery against the vessel wall to provide a seal against the passage of the fluid and the emboli through the pliable material, and

a filtering member attached to the directional member and made from a material which allows body fluid to pass through while blocking particles of a particular

size, the directional member directing body fluid into the filtering member.

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14. (New) The filtering device of claim 13, further including:

a catheter having a shaft which is attached to the filtering member, wherein the directional member has an inlet opening and the catheter includes a plurality of restraining wires attached near the inlet opening of the directional member and extending along the length of the catheter, the restraining wires being retractable from a location outside the body vessel to collapse the directional member.

15. (New) The filtering device of claim 13, further including:

a catheter portion having a shaft, wherein the shaft extends through the filtering portion and is attached to the filtering member.

16. (New) The filtering device of claim 15, wherein

the directional member is disposed at an acute angle relative to the vessel wall and the shaft has a distal end which contacts the filtering member, the angle of the directional member to the vessel wall being changeable by the location of distal end of the shaft relative to the directional member.

(13) 14 15 16

17. (New) The filtering device of claim 16, wherein longitudinal positioning of the distal end of the shaft relative to the directional member regulates the angle that the directional member makes with the vessel wall.

18. (New) The filtering device of claim 15, wherein:

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the catheter portion includes an outer sheath which covers the filtering portion until the filtering portion is to be deployed, the filtering portion being at least partially retractable into the sheath after the filtering portion traps and collects particles in the body vessel.

19. (New) The filtering device of claim 15, wherein:

the directional member has an inlet opening and the catheter portion includes a plurality of restraining wires attached near the inlet opening of the directional member and extending along the length of the catheter portion, the restraining wires being retractable from a location outside the body vessel to collapse the directional member.

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20. (New) The filtering device of claim 19, wherein:

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the restraining wires are retractable to draw at least the inlet opening of the directional member into the sheath of the catheter portion.

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REMARKS

This Amendment is in response to the Office Action dated May 9, 2002.

Claims 1-9 are pending this application. By this Amendment, Applicant has amended claim 8 to correct the Section 112, second paragraph rejections. New claims 13-20 are being presented for the Examiner's consideration.

Submitted herewith are revised formal drawings which address the objections raised by the Examiner in the Office Action. Applicant notes that reference characters "42" and "18" have not been used to designate the same filtering portion. Rather, reference character "18" has been used to designate the filtering portion and reference character "42" has been used to designate the directional member which forms part of the filtering portion 18. For this reason, Applicant believes that a corrected drawing is not required in reply to this Office Action. However, Applicant has revised the drawings by utilizing an arrow, rather than a lead line, to designate the filtering portion "18" in FIGS. 1-4.

The Examiner has rejected claims 6-9 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second